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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

COUNTRY

Hungary

SUBJECT

Signal Regiment Headquarters, "Petofi"  
 Barracks / Sketch and legend key'd  
 to sketch.

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2. Following is a description of points at "Petofi" Barracks.  For sketch of Signal Regiment Headquarters, "Petofi" Barracks

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Pt 1. Guard house and stockade, 12 X 10 X 18 meters, three story stone building with  $\frac{1}{2}$  meter thick walls. Prevost Marshal's Office, Guard Room, and Detention Rooms were located here.

Pt 2. Gate house, same dimensions and construction as Point 1; contained the gate guard's room and pass section.

Pt 3. Archway, connecting Point 1 to Point 2 through Point 4. This archway was one story high, connecting the second stories of Pts 1, 2 and 4, and contained cell blocks.

Pt 4. Quarters for the dependents of the two ranking Non-Coms, 15 X 10 X 18 meters, three-story stone. A stone statue of "Petofi" was in front of this building.

Pt 5. Administrative Headquarters of the Radio School, 30 X 25 X 18 meters, three-story stone. Contained all administrative offices for the Radio School, stored all equipment and supplies used by the school and contained the Radio School Student's Mess Hall.

Pt 6. Transformer building, 10 X 5 X 5 meters, single-story stone building which contained the master transformer. There was no generating equipment here; all power was commercially supplied. In case of power cut off or failure, generators from the signal equipment would be used. There was no occurrence of this type

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- Pt 7. Quarters for Signal Corps Officer Candidates, 75 X 25 X 18 meters, three-story stone and brick construction. Mess Hall and food stores were in the basement and the other floors were quarters for 300-400 officer candidates.
- Pt 8. Drill Field, a grass area 75-80 X 50 meters.
- Pt 9. Canteen, 70 X 10 X 18 meters, three-story stone and brick construction. The canteen was located in the NW corner and the rest of the building contained quarters for summer ROTC Trainees.
- Pt 10. Wall, 2 $\frac{1}{2}$  meters high and 1/3 meter thick. The wall on the front was stone from the ground up to a height of 80 cm with a two meter high ornamental iron rail fence on top. The balance of the wall surrounding the entire area was of brick with a three meter high brick-covered stone pillar spaced every three and one half to four meters.
- Pt 11. Quarters for Wire-men and Telephone and Teletype Operators; 75 X 25 X 18 meters, three story stone and brick construction. Housed about 300 men.
- Pt 12. Smithy, 13 X 10 X 6 meters, one-story stone construction, for shoeing horses housed in Stable, Point 31.
- Pt 13. Coal and Wood Storage, 30 X 10 X 6 meters, one-story stone construction.
- Pt 14. Regimental Headquarters, 25 X 13 X 18 meters, three-story stone construction. Contained offices of Regimental Commander and his Staff, and Secret Document Storage.
- Pt 15. Classroom Building, 35 X 15 X 18 meters, three-story stone and brick construction.
- Pt 16. Quarters and Company Headquarters, 35 X 15 X 18 meters, three-story brick and stone construction. This was my Company Headquarters. About 185 enlisted men and 20 officers were in the Company. The EM were also quartered in this building. Entire Regimental clothing storage and repair was in the basement of this building.
- Pt 17. Storage Building, 18 X 15 X 6 meters, one-story stone construction. All types of building repair supplies were stored here.
- Pt 18. Garages, 55 X 10 X 6 meters, one-story brick construction with a 10 X 10-meter area adjoining the W end for washing wire and cable. On the E end of the building was a gasoline pump with a three thousand liter underground tank under the roadway in front of the tank. Staff cars were garaged here.
- Pt 19. Armorer's shop, 70 X 10 X 6 meters, one-story brick construction. One-third of the E end housed the armorer's shop and the rest of the building garaged staff cars.
- Pt 20. Personnel Headquarters, 25 X 13 X 18 meters, three-story stone and brick construction. Contained the Regimental Administrative offices and all unclassified files. A beautiful flower garden surrounded this building.

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- Pt 21. Technical Repair, 30 X 15 X 18 meters, three-story stone and brick construction. Signal equipment was stored and repaired on the first floor. Classrooms on second and third floors.
- Pt 22. Non-Commissioned Officers School, 30 X 15 X 18 meters, three-story stone and brick construction. Signal equipment and sports supplies were stored in the basement. All other floors were classrooms.
- Pt 23. Gasoline Storage, 20 X 15 X 6 meters, one-story stone and brick construction. The building was always filled to capacity with 55 gal drums (octane and shipping place unknown) of gasoline. Empty drums were stored in the open area on the NW side of the building.
- Pt 24. Sports Area with tennis, basket ball and volley ball courts.
- Pt 25. Building, 55 X 10 X 6 meters, one story stone and brick construction, used for minor repairs on vehicles and a garage for five radio vans.
- Pt 26. Garages, 55 X 10 x 6 meters, one-story stone and brick construction, with a wood and tar-paper roof; 20 vehicles were parked here. (Arrows indicate direction of entry into garages.)
- Pt 27. Garages, 55 X 5 X 6 meters, same construction details as Point 26, had stalls for 20 vehicles. The area from the roadway to the end of the garages was concrete covered.
- Pt 28. Area, 35 X 65 meters surrounded by two and one half meter high wire fence divided into three sections:
- a. Parking for 40 signal vans, each normally loaded with 30 reels of copper cable 250 meters long. Maximum capacity of vehicles was 40 reels.
  - b. Six Direction-Finding Radar Vans were parked here.  
For [ ] sketch of radar van see Enclosure (A). 25X1
  - c. Parking for eight - 10 cargo trucks, three and one half ton capacity.
- Pt 29. Ammunition Dump, single-story stone structure, 15 X 10 X 6 meters. Small arms ammunition for pistols and rifles was stored here.
- Pt 30. Coal and Wood Storage, a one-story brick building, 30 X 10 X 6 meters.
- Pt 31. Stables, a brick building 60 meters long and 10 meters wide; the two end sections were single story, six meters high and the center section was two story, 10 meters high. 20-22 officer's riding horses were stabled here. On the second floor of the center section were quarters for radio operators.
- Pt 32. Storage Building, single-story stone and brick structure, 40 X 10 X 6 meters. Miscellaneous signal equipment was stored here.
- Pt 33. Vehicle Repair Shops, an "L" shaped stone and brick building, 55 X 10 X 6 - 15 X 10 X 6 meters with a concrete area in front of it. Third echelon maintenance was performed here. A vehicle salvage yard adjacent to it.
- Pt 34. Hospital Dispensary, a two-story stone and brick building, 27 X 10 X 10 meters.

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- Pt 35. Storage Building, single story brick structure, 15 X 10 X 4-5 meters. Small signal equipment parts stored here.
- Pt 36. Steps leading up to NW end of Post.
- Pt 37. Firing Range, 20 X 45 meters. Small arms were fired here. Five or six men could stand on the firing line simultaneously.
- Pt 38. Auditorium/Sports Arena, a single-story stone and brick structure, 85 X 20 X 20-25 meters, divided into several sections:
- a. Sports Director's Office
  - b.&c. Athletic Equipment Storage
  - d. Shower Rooms
  - e. Sports Arena Area
  - f. Auditorium
  - g. Snack Bar
- Pt 39. Ammunition Storage, a small stone structure, 3 X 3 X 3 meters. Pistol and rifle ammunition was stored here.
- Pt 40. Guard Posts permanently manned by armed Hungarian Military Soldiers.

3. There were two iron gates in the wall, Point 10, one in the front wall and one in the NW wall. Both were  $3\frac{1}{2}$ -4 meters wide. The road to the West of Point 20 and to the East of Points 14 and 15 was asphalt. All other roads on the Post were of cut-stone and in good condition. The area on both sides of Points 18 and 19 and to the NW of Points 17, 19 and 23 was covered with packed dirt and coal ashes.

4. Normally, 800-one thousand personnel were stationed at the barracks, including the officer candidates. [redacted] the strength report which showed a total of 1221 personnel. At full capacity, the Post could accommodate 1600 personnel. "Wash-outs" from the Signal Corps Officer Candidate School became ranking Non-Commissioned officers. Graduates were commissioned as 2nd Lieutenants with the top three candidates becoming 1st Lieutenants. The career officers were very democratic toward the troops, whereas the newer officers were "chicken" because of their Communistic training. It was rumored that the Regiment would be reassigned, the Post would be converted to a Tactical Division Headquarters, and the Officer Candidate School would be moved to Szent Endre (474QN/1905E) about 30 km N on the Danube River.

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5. On the higher hill tops in Budapest, there was a 10-20 man installation equipped with a monitor radio which was tied into the Hungarian National Defense Radio system. These men were quartered on the second floor of the Stables, Point 31. Each regiment had its own colors. If these colors were lost or stolen (even in combat) the regiment was disgraced, disbanded and the personnel reassigned to the worst possible assignments.

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Enclosure (A): Memory sketch of Radar Van.

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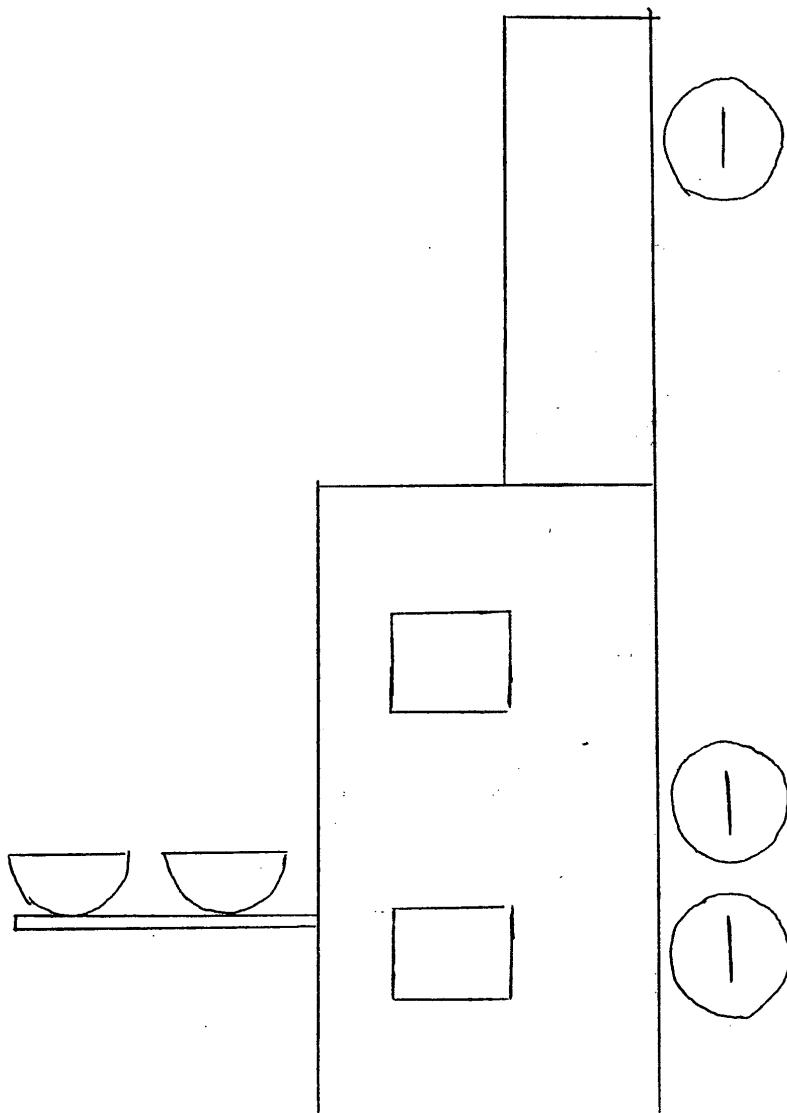
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ENCLOSURE (A)

[REDACTED] SKETCH OF RADAR VANS PARKED AT POINT 28B, "PETOFI" BARRACKS

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